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#4  
3/7/00  
A.W.

Applicant : Benson, et al.

Appl. No. : 09/321,386

Filed : May 27, 1999

For : METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR  
MANAGING A DATA OBJECT SO  
AS TO COMPLY WITH  
PREDETERMINED CONDITIONS  
FOR USAGE

Examiner : M. Von Buhr

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

(Date) E. M. Nelson  
Eric M. Nelson, Reg. No. 43,829

Appl. No. : /321,386  
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issue of derivation under 35 U.S.C. § 102(f) with respect to the '281 patent and the '606 application must be resolved.

Applicant respectfully submits that the inventors of the '281 patent, the '606 application, and the present application are all the same, namely, Greg Benson, Gregory Urich, Christopher Knauft. On July 8, 1999, Applicant's attorney filed a petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.324 to add Christopher Knauft as a named inventor in the '281 patent, Greg Benson and Gregory Urich being the other two named inventors. Furthermore, on April 20, 1999, Applicant's attorney filed a petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(a) to add Christopher Knauft as a named inventor in the '606 application, Greg Benson and Gregory Urich being the other two named inventors. Greg Benson, Gregory Urich, Christopher Knauft are the named inventors for the present application.

Since the inventors for each of these cases are the same, Applicant respectfully submits that the '281 patent and the '606 application are not prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(g) or (f) with respect to the present application.

#### Summary

Applicant has endeavored to address all of the Examiner's concerns as expressed in the outstanding Office Action. In light of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions which may be answered by telephone, she is invited to call the undersigned directly.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 2/15/2000

By: 

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